

SPECIAL MEETING
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2016
7:00PM

The meeting of Cottage City was called to order by Commissioner Nunez at 7:00pm.

IN ATTENDANCE

Commissioners: Nunez, Givens, Butler, Hill, Wheatley (absent)

Town Manager, Mr. Mosley

Various Citizens

There was a discussion regarding generating ideas of what residents would like to see in the town.

The following questions were given out to the public to think about:

What are our assets?

Which one of these assets is strongest?

What makes us better than other towns?

Do we have strong resident participation?

What is the unique thing about our town?

What are the things that other people say we do well?

What are the advantages we have over other towns?

STRENGTHS:	WEAKNESSES:	OPPORTUNITIES:
Small town ; community garden	Low taxes ; low revenues	Development
Police force ; lights	No diversity tax base	Purple line
Low taxes ; people who care	Location	Good legislator (state, county, congressional)
Good houses ; budget	Too many auto businesses	More bilingual capacity
Location ; sidewalks/trails	Businesses don't generate revenue	Commuter trail
School buses ; affordable housing	Empty buildings / homes	Bilingual police
Diversity ; part of port towns	Government structure	MARC train station
Access to public transportation	Lack of quality schools	Close municipalities with other resources
Good commissioners	Jobs	Zoning
Hire staff	Language barriers	Participating business
Churches	Communication channels between gov – residents	
Town Hall building structure	Lack of community spaces (libraries, health center)	
	Police patrol / service	
	Train	
	Resident participation at meetings	
	Lack of business community	
	Communication between one another	

THREATS:	IDEAS FOR FUTURE:	IDEAS FOR FUTURE:
Trains	Opportunity to get to know each other ; annual BBQ planned by commission; block parties	Create infrastructure for citizen participation
Development	Emergency planning	*more intentional about informing
Cost of housing price out	Snow plan available to public	“First Friday”
Proximity of other town issues	Green team become certified	“Block Captain” ; “Each one recruit one”
Bladensburg splits towns and no control	Apprenticeship for young people in town	Language exchanges
President elect/policies	Sidewalks with grass in Bladensburg	Open conversation
Zoning	Beautification team by Ward	Services / programs at town hall (during weekday, weekend, evenings)
Limited economic opportunity	Code enforcement	Speed bumps on our streets
	Police patrol	Kids / youth space
	Christmas in April	
	Asset list (employment, reduce rate for repairs)	
	*Long term strategy that addresses quality of life	
	Informational board (physical) manage where residents can post	
	*Redundancy	
	Recreation committee – develop a framework	
	New website / new logo	
	Suggestion box	
	Strategic plan – business corridor	
	Making Bladensburg more livable	